Tsunami Warning Centre

†209. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to set up a Tsunami Warning Centre in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had received proposal from various State Government to set up Tsunami warning systems in their respective States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Department is setting up an Early Warning System for Tsunami and Storm Surges in the Indian Ocean Region with the following components:

- strengthening of the existing seismological network to indicate,near real time occurrence of tsunamigenic earthquakes;
- installation of tsunami warning sensors close to the ocean bottom at appropriate locales in the Indian Ocean, with real time connectivity;
- Tide gauge and data buoys networking to validate arrival of tsunami waves at the coast;
- Modelling of the inundation scenarios for the entire coast and mapping of potential risk areas;
- collection of information, analysis and generating status advisories.

The warning system is scheduled to be operational by September, 2007 with active participaiton of other concerned departments such as Department of Science & Technology (DST), Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), and Department of Space (DOS). A centre would be set up at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad on a 24 x 7 basis.

(c) Yes, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The Government received requests from the State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa for locating Tsunami Warning System in these states. The decision to locate the Tsunami Early Warning Centre at the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad was taken with a view to make optimal utilization of the facilities created at INCOIS for Satellite Oceanography and Statellite Communication etc. INCOIS is the agency of the Department of Ocean Development in-charge of guiding and coordinating research in the field of ocean information and providing services such as Potential Fishing Zone and Ocean State advisories.

Research Centre at Antarctica

†210. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish a new research centre in Antarctica;

(b) the number of scientists working in these research centres at present;

(c) whether deaths have occurred due to very bad weather conditions since 1981 to till date;

(d) if so, the details thereof; yearwise;

(e) the amount of annual budget allocated for the research centre situated in Antarctica;

(f) whether Government propose to increase the budget and number of scientists for these centres; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present the winter team consisting of nine scientists and sixteen logistics personnel is working at Maitri station. During summer around

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